

Legislative work—cont.'d

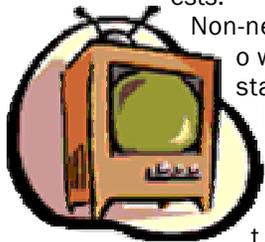
ventory.

Telecommunications

Congressman Nunes is helping protect the voice of local television viewers and their local broadcasters.

Mr. Nunes cosponsored H.R. 2052 the Preservation of Localism, Program Diversity, and Competition in Television Broadcast Service Act. This legislation would codify the Federal Communication Commission's 35 percent national television ownership cap. The cap enhances the effort of local stations and local viewers to control local programming rather than having those decisions made by a handful of corporate network executives in New York or Hollywood.

Network-owned local stations usually toe their network's line by airing programs that serve the networks' national and international programming interests.



Non-network owned stations, however, have a track

record of fierce independence and of making programming decisions based on the needs of their local viewers, not on the national and international program interests and financial objectives of their vertically-integrated national networks.

Trade

Canned Fruit

Congressman Nunes joined a number of his col-

leagues in sending a letter to President Bush about the poor economic state of U.S. canned fruit producers and his concern that trade initiatives being pursued by the Admini-

stration could put these industries, other import-sensitive fruit and vegetable producers, and the many allied sectors they support at risk.

Today, the U.S. canned fruit growers receive minimal government assistance, but must compete in every world market, including their own domestic market, against heavily subsidized European Union (EU) canned fruit. Congressman Nunes expressed his concerns that no Doha Trade Round reform proposal tabled thus far in the World Trade Organization offers near- or mid-term hope of meaningfully reducing the EU's domestic canned fruit subsidies.

He urged the President to consider ways to ensure that the agreements do not adversely impact these small businesses and that the trade initiatives should allow exemptions from tariff reductions for industries like the canned fruit sector, which have highly import-sensitive tariffs.



Port of Oakland

Port of Oakland

Congressman Nunes signed a letter to Chairman David Hobson (R-OH), of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee, supporting the Port of Oakland's fiscal year 2004 request for funding for the Oakland Harbor Navigation Improvement Project.

The vast majority of California agricultural exports travel through the Port of Oakland and help to maintain the ports current role as an export hub (63% of all traffic at the port moves product out of the United States).

Deepening and widening the port will provide substantial economic benefits to the California economy and will keep the port viable as new, larger ships become the dominant method of transporting goods.